



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 18 Week Ending July 11, 2010

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## Agricultural Summary

Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.9. Mostly hot and dry weather was experienced across the state, with a few isolated thunderstorms. Soil moisture content remained the same from the previous week.

## Field Crops Summary

**Box Elder and Utah Counties** small grain crops are beginning to golden as they start the ripening process. Barley harvest is expected to begin shortly. Grain crops are in good condition, good yields are expected. Alfalfa producers are beginning to cut their second crop in the south part of the county. The cool spring has affected alfalfa production. Corn is beginning to grow rapidly, but is still behind normal due to the cold weather in May and June. Producers are beginning to speculate about whether or not corn will mature this fall. Irrigation is of high importance as the temperature increase. Most onion fields are looking very good this year. Irrigation and pest management are crucial to the onion crop. Safflower is the one crop that is highly variable this year. Some safflower fields look very good while other stands look very poor. Timing of planting made the difference this year. Later stands did not germinate well and are thin which allows more weed competition. **Cache County** corn has grown significantly due to the hot weather. Alfalfa hay is also growing quickly, with many growers cutting their second crop. **Morgan County** first cutting of alfalfa is near completion. Grain crops are in good condition. **Weber County** farmers are starting the second cutting of alfalfa. Most of the first cutting was damaged by rain. There are grasshoppers present in **Duchesne County**; however, they are not as prevalent as last year. Some producers are spraying for grasshoppers and taking advantage of the state cost share program. A large amount of grass hay has been cut, and first cutting of alfalfa is complete.

## Livestock Summary

**Box Elder County** livestock operations report that summer ranges are in good condition and grass is growing with good soil moisture. One operation, headquartered in Box Elder County, had wolf depredation this past week. The wolf was shot, and wildlife officials confirmed that sheep were killed by the wolf. **Cache County** pastures and rangelands are declining rapidly because of the lack of moisture. Livestock continue to do well. Grasshoppers are present, but numbers are currently manageable. **Carbon County** livestock producers are starting to haul water to the mountains. **Duchesne County** temperatures have been cooler this past week, which has slowed down pasture deterioration due to drying conditions. **Emery County** cattle and sheep are doing well on mountain ranges, but livestock water is in short supply in many areas. Producers will more than likely need to haul water to keep livestock grazing without major summer storms to fill ponds on mountains. Desert ranges look great for fall livestock grazing with grass production doing very well. Water for livestock will again be the limiting factor this fall without good summer storms to fill ponds. **Garfield and Kane Counties** grazing land is maintaining forage despite little to no precipitation. Rain is needed.

## Crop Progress for Week Ending July 11, 2010

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley Headed Stage	94	87	91	91
Oats Headed Stage	69	52	80	74
Spring Wheat Headed	91	70	71	86
Alfalfa First Cutting	97	92	97	98
Alfalfa Second Cutting	10	NA	17	28
Other Hay Cut	79	61	66	72
Apricots Harvested	7	4	63	48
Sweet Cherries Harvested	26	9	83	64

## Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending July 11, 2010

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	0	3	18	68	11
Spring Wheat	0	4	17	54	25
Winter Wheat	0	13	20	44	23
Barley	0	1	12	55	32
Oats	0	1	8	75	16
Corn	0	1	25	64	10
Sheep	0	1	9	71	19
Cattle/calves	0	1	11	70	18

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending July 11, 2010

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	28	69	1
Subsoil	3	25	72	0
Irrigation water supplies	0	10	85	5
Stock water supplies	3	12	80	5